

BREAKS INTERSTATE PARK COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting

The Breaks Interstate Park Commission met for a regularly scheduled meeting on June 12, 2003 at Breaks Interstate Park.

Commission members present were: Mr. Jack Sykes, Chairman; representing Kentucky Lieutenant Governor Steve Henry; Mr. Willard Owens, Vice-Chairman; Mr. Elster Stanley, Secretary; Ms. Gypsy Cantrell, Treasurer; Mr. Craig Seaver, representing Mr. Joe Maroon, Director, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation; Mr. John Paul, representing Ms. Ann Latta, Secretary of Tourism and Acting Commissioner of Kentucky State Parks.

Mr. Andrew Mullins and Mr. Walter Fletcher were unable to attend.

Guests present were: Mr. Shad Baker, Pine Mountain Trail Association; Ms. Rena Powers, Dickenson Star Newspaper; Mr. Wendell Ward, Ms. Nina Aragon and Ms. Debra Coleman, Elkhorn City Heritage Council.

The chairman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. He welcomed Mr. Seaver and Mr. Paul to the regular meeting of the Breaks Interstate Park Commission.

The first order of business was approval of the minutes for the March 13, 2003 meeting. Mr. Elster Stanley made a motion to accept them as written and Ms. Gypsy Cantrell seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Willard Owens made a motion to accept the financial statement dated May 31, 2003 and Ms. Gypsy Cantrell seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Shad Baker of the Pine Mountain Trail Association (PMTA) informed the Breaks Interstate Park Commission of a problem the PMTA was having with ATV traffic on the trail. He presented a series of slides showing some of the significant damage to the trail, i.e., erosion and endangered plant life. He asked for permission from the Breaks Interstate Park Commission to install a gate on park property at Potter Flats. After

discussion, the commission agreed to allow Mr. Baker to install a gate. Superintendent Mullins commented that there were several access roads into the trail and a gate at Potter Flats would not deter the ATV riders.

The proposed budget for the 2003-2004 year was discussed. Ms. Gypsy Cantrell made a motion to approve the budget and Mr. Elster Stanley seconded. Motion carried.

Superintendent Mullins reported on several items: 1.) Visitation for 2003 was down about 9% compared to the same period in 2002; 2.) Campground Store had been moved out to the campground; 3.) Plans for a game room are being considered at the old Campground Store building.

Superintendent Mullins discussed the retirement benefits for salaried employees at the park. The park employees are now enrolled in a retirement plan with the Principal Financial Group. Superintendent Mullins would like to explore the possibilities of the park employees being enrolled in the Virginia State Retirement Fund. Mr. Willard Owens made a motion for Superintendent Mullins to proceed with this and Ms. Gypsy Cantrell seconded. Motion carried.

Superintendent Mullins informed the Breaks Interstate Park Commission of an old depilated building on park property that needed to be torn down. It's the old house down in the stable area. It was decided to advertise, in local papers, for someone to tear it down and remove it from park property.

Superintendent Mullins reported that the people were no longer using the spring on park property.

Mr. Willard Owens made a motion to allow Mr. Gary Meade, Horn and Associates, to drill 14 core holes, on park property, for the bridge at Potter Flats. Ms. Gypsy Cantrell seconded. Motion carried.

Under new business, several items were discussed: 1.) Ms. Cantrell had obtained a picture of Mr. Harold Zanger, past Superintendent of the Breaks Interstate Park. Superintendent Mullins will have it matted and framed and hang it in the lobby. 2.) Work with legislators on an agreement that the Breaks Interstate Park Rangers could be bonded to police in Kentucky as well as Virginia. 3.) Work with legislators that some sort of

agreement could be made on a marriage license. Now you must have a Virginia license and a minister licensed in Virginia. Change that to include Kentucky minister as well.

Mr. Wendell Ward, Ms. Nina Aragon and Ms. Debra Coleman were present from the Elkhorn City Heritage Council. They are working on an official trailhead for the Pine Mountain Trail and would like to put it on park property, but they need to do some dozer work to the area. Mr. Willard Owens made a motion to give Mr. Sykes and Superintendent Mullins authority to work with the Heritage Council on this project. Mr. John Paul seconded. Motion carried.

The Commission set the date for the next regularly scheduled meeting to be Thursday, September 11th, 2003, lunch at noon and meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Willard Owens made a motion for the meeting to adjourn, Ms. Gypsy Cantrell seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting concluded at 2:00 p.m.